From: Simmons, Denise
To: David Finger
Subject: Re: City Council of Cambridge MA Hearing and Vote on Israel Boycott - Monday April 23
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 6:22:11 PM

Dear Mr. Finger,

Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of concern in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that **this will only appear on the City Council's agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it.** We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online on the Thursday evening around 5:30 pm prior to the Monday City Council meeting (indeed, I had originally heard that the organization looking to have this sponsored was looking to get this placed on the agenda for April 23. It will NOT be on this coming Monday's agenda, but the organization may be recalculating as to when they think this *can* be introduced). I can, at the very least, confirm that *I* am not a sponsor of such a resolution.

There have been numerous passionate op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for drafting this resolution, for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, nor even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, or for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. None of these scenarios are accurate. While I understand the passion behind this matter, I must clarify that we do not yet actually have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to take this up for consideration *unless and until* a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting. At this point, I am not yet certain if such a resolution will be introduced or not.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 30 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: David Finger <dfinger1@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 6:12 PM
To: City Council
Subject: City Council of Cambridge MA Hearing and Vote on Israel Boycott - Monday April 23

Dear City Council members,
I write to you to express my hope that you vote against the resolution to end contracts with Hewlett Packard, which is part of a larger Boycott/Divest/Sanction (BDS) movement against the State of Israel.

Israel is a democratic country that respects the rights of LGBTQ, women, and people of all religions...all of whom serve in Israeli Knesset. The city of Cambridge shares many of her ideals. Though Israel is far from perfect and her actions should be criticized where warranted, Israel is not deserving of the delegitimization that comes with supporting this vote.

Respectfully,
David Finger
1039 Massachusetts Ave. Apt 103
Cambridge MA 02138